

Summer Mustang

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California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

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Bottle Bill initiative is debated

BY ANNE FRENCH
Staff Writer

"When I was a kid, I remember my parents always bought returnable bottles. 'It just makes sense,' said the head of the five-member San Luis Obispo group, Supporters of Bottle Bill Legislation.

George Crane was optimistic that Californians would vote in the Bottle Bill initiative this November. He claimed there is overwhelming support (85-90 percent) for the initiative which would require a deposit on beverage containers. Crane said the League of Women Voters have named this issue as their No. 1 priority in the upcoming election.

Proposition 11 would require retailers to pay customers 5 cents for each beer or soft drink container made of metal, glass or plastic that they turn in. Retailers are then reimbursed by beverage distributors. Please see page 3



Summer Mustang—Leslie Winkel

Though the San Luis Obispo environmental group ECO—SLO normally devotes its time to recycling newspapers, the organization is throwing its weight behind the Bottle Bill initiative which will appear on the November ballot in California.

Grass Roots II struggles to keep doors open

By TRACY JACKSON
and CAROLINE SMITH
Staff Writers

"It's been a long struggle, but we try to keep the doors open."

And you may take these words literally from Maxine Lewis, program director and the sole paid employee of Grass Roots II, literally the word "grass roots" is defined by Webster's dictionary as "common people working together to bring about change." Grass Roots II is a general information, refer-

ral and service organization available to anyone who walks through the door—provided it can keep the door open.

"We operate from day to day and we only operate on operating expenses," said Lewis. "We just don't have any money," she said.

Surviving barely

Grass Roots II survives on a \$28,000 per year budget that allows only for the money to be spent on necessities—rent, utilities, insurance, taxes, and so forth.

The \$28,000 figure which was cut by 20 percent effective July 1, 1982, due to a county-wide revenue sharing cutback, does not allow for the primary services which characterize Grass Roots II; daily transportation for the elderly and disabled; crisis, career, survival, and financial counseling; advocate in fair hearing, and landlord/tenant disputes; emergency food and clothing distribution, and to provide referrals for other means of assistance that Grass Roots II cannot supply.

"We refuse no one from service. We are geared to help whatever crisis, whatever need," explained Lewis.

Much of this organizations help involves people who don't know where to turn for assistance.

"People are eligible for service, but are unaware of where to go or they are incapable of reading and understanding the forms when they get there," said Lewis. "At Grass Roots II," said Dr.

Please see page 4



Summer Mustang—Vern Ahrendes

Normally its the critics which burn a new magazine, but publishers Jake Van Cleve and Bob Griffith were the ones to put a torch to one of San Luis Obispo's two new music magazines, SLOP.

Bored SLO music fans turn to new magazines

BY CAROL A JOHNSON
Staff Writer

Tired of *Rolling Stone*, *BAM* and *Cream* magazines? Try a little *SLOP* or *RAD* on for size.

SLOP and *RAD* are two locally published magazines written for the music enthusiast who is tired of reading how Elvis Costello has repented and why Van Halen never gets any respect. Both magazines are put out by students and approach the music business in different ways.

RAD is a tabloid published by Cuesta College student Judith Graham, and concerns itself with the alternative music scene, including reggae and punk. *SLOP* deals primarily with local bands and music information around San Luis Obispo.

Freedom is the theme behind *RAD*, according to Graham.

"I prefer to think of myself as a publisher, not an editor," said Graham. "An editor is someone who cuts and slashes stories. I don't cut anything. We don't want a format here; we're trying to get away from formats."

Late delivery

RAD, which stands for Rock Against Disease, was actually conceived two years ago, but did not see print in mimeographed form until this year.

"We were going to call it *Scumbag*," said Graham. "But then we decided on *RAD*. I finally realized that if I wanted to get it off the ground, I'd have to do it myself, and it would have to be this year."

So here is *RAD*, "the magazine that dares to be what it eats." It is distributed at Boo Boo's, Cuesta Col-

lege and at punk concerts, and it reviews concerts, records and prints updates about punk bands. Also featured are drawings and cartoons with such characters as The Meanie, The Scumbag Brother and Betty Butthole and Arthur 666. Collages boasting such phrases as "Herpes; the VD of the '80's" and "Penetration Tonight?" super-imposed over photographs of vultures, and groups of people making obscene gestures are included in the magazine.

But since *RAD* stands for freedom, Graham said she'll print just about anything—and feels no qualms about it.

"There is no real staff for *RAD*, although some of the same writers have appeared in a few of our issues," she said. "*RAD* is not real slick for the time being. We're still new at it." The magazine is going to continue, and we'll keep improving as we go along."

Senior journalism major Jake Van Cleve, one of the two publishing editors of *SLOP*, has similar feelings about his magazine.

Hurried

"This is our first copy of *SLOP*, and we were in a hurry to get it out," said Van Cleve. "I think this one was boring to look at. There were too many words, and as a result, it looked intimidating. But it was a good basis to work on. It certainly won't get any worse."

Journalism graduate Bob Griffith, Van Cleve's partner, said both of them are novices at printing.

"Our magazine is not only a good way to practice our writing, but since we are the bosses, we are able to call our own shots," he said.

Please see page 2

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Editors travel different roads

From page 1

SLOP, short for the San Luis Obispo Press, published for the first time this summer. It is designed to keep the community informed of local concerts, bands and clubs around town. The second issue will be out in September, and the magazine will come out monthly from then on. It will contain 12 to 16 pages per issue.

Van Cleve said future issues will include photographs, more advertisements and will be more "eye catching."

Labor of love
Griffith call **SLOP** a "labor of love," since nobody is making a profit on it. He said they're just breaking even now, since it is completely supported by advertisements.

"There is a real demand for a magazine like this in the area," said Van Cleve. "It's free, and it's interesting. We've been getting positive feedback so far."

Van Cleve said that all 500 copies of their first edi-

tion were picked up which he says is very encouraging. They were distributed at KCPR, record stores and clubs in town. He and Griffith hope to distribute them in music stores and recording studios soon.

SLOP's editors are open to suggestions, and welcome any articles people may want to write.

"We're going to print 5000 copies next time," Van Cleve said. He continued, "We'll have free **SLOP** all over the place."

Kid's film festival scheduled

It has been billed as a children's film festival, but sponsors say that adults shouldn't feel shy about tagging along.

The Economic Opportunity Commission is putting on a Children's Film Festival this Saturday at the Rainbow Theatre to benefit the EOC. Show times are noon and 3 p.m.

The festival will feature

the nonanimated version of *The Jungle Book* as well as *Little Rascals* and *Pink Panther* cartoons.

A \$1.75 admission will be charged children and adults will pay \$2.75.

Several San Luis Obispo stores are donating door prizes. Information on the programs EOC offers will also be available.

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Bill opponents call measure a health threat

From page 1

Supporters say the main benefit of the Bottle Bill initiative is that it would alleviate the litter problems. The U.S. General Accounting Office estimates that 5 percent of all solid wastes would be eliminated if this measure passed.

The GAO states: "The burdens to society from beverage container litter and solid-waste disposal problems are no less tangible than the costs that industry claims it would have to pay if it were required to redeem empty deposit containers."

Bill benefits

According to a brochure circulated by a leading proponent, Californians Against Waste, the benefits of the Bottle Bill initiative include: conserving energy and resources, creating more jobs, reducing taxes through smaller litter cleanup costs, preventing accidents caused by broken bottles and consumer savings for purchasing recyclable bottles rather than disposable ones.

The group CAW began the California legislative lobbying in 1975. The sponsor of the bill is Californians for Recycling and Litter Cleanup.

"I was in San Diego the first day petitions came out," said Crane. He said that in 99 days 500,000 signatures had been collected, ensuring it would be on the November ballot. Crane said that virtually all the arguments in support of deposit have been contested by large industry.

Those opposing the initiative are bottle and can manufacturers, brewers and soft drink bottlers, grocers and nearly all of organized labor. They're currently funding one of the state's most costly drives against the measure (upwards to \$5 million.)

The opposition have structured their campaign around what grocers view as the threat that dirty containers will cause disease. Findings from a study commissioned from Chapman College in Orange will be aired. The 133-page report declared the initiative to be inefficient and costly public policy."

Counter charges

The container industry says deposit laws would inconvenience customers, create unemployment and sanitation problems and result in increased retail prices for beverages.

The measure could also hurt the beverage distributors. The distributors would have to pay the retailer 20 percent of the sales deposit, a fee to compensate for storing and handling the bottles. Crane said if 87-97 percent of the containers were returned then the distributors then would break even as the

distributor would be reimbursed when the containers were redeemed.

Crane said he felt California would be a key state in developing a unified, national policy. Senator Mark O. Hatfield (R-Oregon), author of a proposed national bill stated, "if California had a container deposit law like Oregon's there would be strong impetus for a national

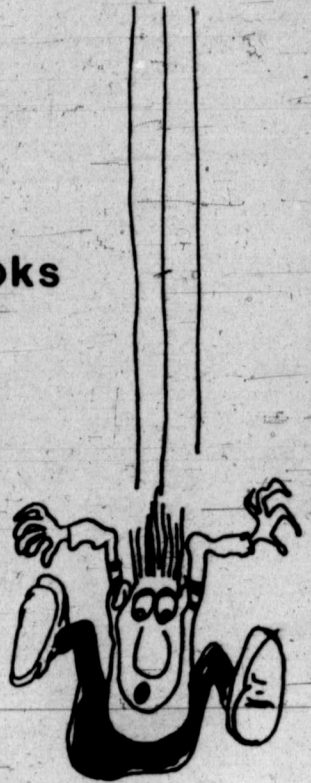
bill."

Crane said that closer to the election his group will be passing out leaflets door to door. "We're conservative with our funds because we don't have any." He said anyone interested should contact ECO-SLO. Crane concluded, "I think this is a positive step for California."

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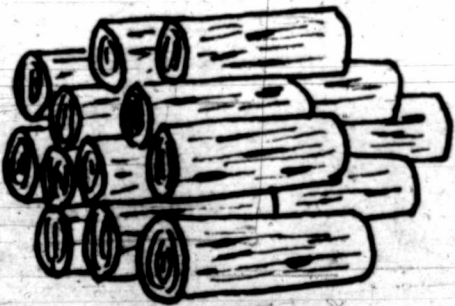


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Grass Roots seeks recruits

From page 1

Joel Land, president of the board and staff psychiatrist at the California Men's Colony, "our criteria is need."

Getting Worse

And the problem is getting worse instead of better. Grass Roots II serves anywhere from 45 to 50 people each day and well into the thousands each month. As a result of this overflow, the center increasingly relies on volunteer help, which they are constantly recruiting. The biggest need is for a volunteer pool with a communication system from which they can contact people as the need for service arises. Volunteers are needed periodically for such chores as yard work, property management, and office and clerical duties.

"We could use at least one full-time clerical person, but with the lack of funding to pay anyone, we have to fill in the best we can, and because of the staff, not much information can be collected and records kept," she said. Land echoed Lewis when he added "people know we're here, but because of the staffing and money problems, we can't deal with the people who walk through our

door."

Grass Roots II occasionally sponsors fundraising events such as barbecues, bake sales and rummage sales in which volunteers are needed to help organize and coordinate the functions.

An upcoming Grass Root II fundraiser will be a chicken barbecue tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 4 in the Safeway parking lot on Marsh Street in San Luis Obispo.

Unlike some volunteers who, according to Land, "may be here a day or a couple of months," Tony D'Amico, 25, has been donating approximately 20 hours a week while seeking full-time employment.

"I get a lot of enjoyment out of this. I'd rather deal with other people's problem instead of my own, and I've always been interested in helping people," said D'Amico.

If you're in need of special help or would like to donate some help, Grass Roots II is located at 1371 B. Pacific Street in San Luis Obispo. Just look for the place with the open door, but don't wait too long—it may not be open much longer.

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